

***CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT***

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Southern California Permitting and Corrective Action Branch  
Hazardous Waste Management Program  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, California 91201

**Project Title:** Permit Renewal for General Electric International, Inc., Los Angeles  
Service Center, Anaheim

**Contact Person and Telephone:** Chia-Rin Yen, (818) 551-2182

**Project Location:** 3601 East La Palma Avenue  
**City:** Anaheim **County:** Orange

**Project Description:** The Hazardous Waste Storage Building is approximately 116 square feet, with capacity to store approximately 26 55-gallon drums of hazardous waste, including, but not limited to, waste oil, mixed solvents used for part cleaning, waste paint, waste acid, lead acid batteries, rags and debris and waste coolant.

**Background:** The General Electric International, Inc., Los Angeles Service Center (GE LASC) is a maintenance and repair shop for industrial and utility electrical equipment such as large motors, generators, transformers, circuit breakers and switchgear. As a result of these maintenance and repair activities, hazardous waste is generated.

GE LASC currently holds a Hazardous Waste Facility (HWF) Permit which allows the facility to store polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and non-PCB hazardous wastes. The HWF Permit was issued on August 18, 1993 and expired in August 2003. GE LASC is authorized to operate under the existing HWF Permit until a final decision is made by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to the permit renewal request. GE LASC is currently closing the PCB hazardous waste storage unit under the oversight of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). GE LASC submitted an application to renew its HWF Permit for continuing storage of hazardous waste at Hazardous Waste Storage Building. The storage capacity increased from 20 to 26 drums.

According to a Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) Report, dated 1994, PCB was detected at several locations in the

facility, including the concrete pad near the regulated Hazardous Waste Storage Building. GE is currently removing PCB impacted soil from a railroad property outside eastern property line. This area is known as Area of Concern No. 3 (AOC#3). After the completion of the removal activities for AOC#3, GE LASC will conduct a site wide response action which is required by the Expedited Remedial Action Enforcement Agreement, signed by both GE LASC and DTSC in October 1996.

**Project Activities:** DTSC has approved re-issuance of the GE LASC permit to allow continued its storage of hazardous waste in an 116 square foot area known as the Hazardous Waste Storage Building. Up to twenty-six 55-gallon drums of hazardous waste, including waste oil, mixed solvents used for part cleaning, waste paint, waste acid, rags and debris, lead acid batteries and waste coolant will be stored. The storage capacity increased from 20 to 26 drums.

The building has a sealed metal roof, wall, impervious steel flooring to prevent the rainwater from reaching hazardous waste. The building has its own containment to prevent any releases to the concrete. There are no sewer lines, floor drains, drain valves or other openings that would allow liquid to flow out of the containment with 7-inch-high curbed edges. The building is always locked except when adding or removing containers from the building.

GE LASC is closing a PCB Hazardous Waste Container Storage Unit under the USEPA oversight. GE LASC has already completed the closure activities, including decontamination and sampling activities for this separate unit. A closure certification report has been submitted for USEPA review. GE LASC expects to obtain a clean closure for this unit.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:**

Department of Toxic Substances Control

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

General Electric International, Inc., Los Angeles Service Center

**Exempt Status:** Title 14, California Code of Regulations section 15061(b)(3).

With certainty, no possibility of significant environmental effect.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The continued storage of 26 55-gallon drums of hazardous waste at GE LASC will not cause any significant environmental effect because:

1. The change in the storage capacity does not require additional or different management practices nor it will result in modifications to the existing storage unit and secondary containment.
2. GE LASC is located in an area zoned for light-industrial use. The nearest residential/commercial area is located approximately 0.75 miles from the

facility, which is surrounded by a seven-foot chain-link and three strand barbed wire security fence. Human access to the building is limited to the facility's workers who receive annual training for safe handling of hazardous waste.

3. The GE LASC Hazardous Waste Storage Building has its own containment to prevent any releases. Only twenty-six 55-gallon containers can be stored in the building. The containers are kept closed and secured during the storage to prevent any releases to the environment.
4. In general, the hazardous waste is shipped by licensed transporters from the facility once every three months; therefore, the impact to the traffic is insignificant.
5. The facility is on the Hazardous Waste and Substance Sites List pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5 because PCB was detected at the concrete pad below the Hazardous Waste Storage Building. The PCB release was not caused by the operation of the DTSC regulated unit. The facility's record indicated that there was no release of hazardous waste from the regulated unit to the concrete pad. The concrete pad and the site wide contamination will be remediated in accordance with the existing enforcement agreement signed in 1996. Contamination and remediation will not be affected by the continuing operation of the Hazardous Waste Storage Building.

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Date: October 28, 2004

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José Kou, P.E., Chief  
Southern California Permitting and Corrective Action Branch  
Hazardous Waste Management Program

**Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_